REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 12, 2007 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendment to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Following the current amendment, claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-40, and 42-53, including independent claims 1, 38, 47, and 50-53 remain in the present application. More specifically, Applicants herein amend claims 1, 5-9, 12, 16-18, 20, 26 38, 42-43, and 46-48, add new claims 50-53, and cancel claims 4, 15, and 41 without disclaimer or prejudice. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment adds no new subject matter to the present application and serves only to place the present application in better condition for examination. Entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the rejected pending claims are respectfully requested. It is believed that all grounds for rejection in the Office Action have been addressed and that the present application is currently in condition for allowance in view of the amendment and the following arguments. Reconsideration of claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-40, and 42-53 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

In Sections 1-3 of the Office Action, claims 12 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being patentably indefinite for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicants regard as the invention. According to the Office Action, the Phrase "an Administrative Function (ADMF)" in claims 12 and

17 is allegedly unclear due to incorrect antecedent basis since "ADMF" is already recited in prior claims 4 and 15. This rejection of claims 12 and 17 is in now moot in view of the current amendments.

Applicants herein amend claims 12 and 17 to address this rejection by changing the antecedent basis of the "ADMF." Withdrawal of this ground of rejection and reconsideration of claim 12 and 17 is respectfully requested in view of the present amendment.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In Sections 4-5 of the Office Action, claims 1-6, 8-10, 12, 14-17, 19-27, 29-30, 32-44, and 47-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Published Patent Application No. 20040228362 of Maki et al. (the Maki reference). According to the Office Action, Maki discloses all recitations of these claims. However, as will be discussed below, each of the pending claims currently recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in Maki. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request that this rejection be withdrawn in view of the current amendment and the following arguments.

Independent claim 1, from which claims 2, 3, 5-14, 16-37 depend, recites a method for intercepting at least one session involving at least a first network and a second network of different types. The recited method includes monitoring signalling

information that is provided in at least one of the first and second networks of the session, and monitoring session content related to the same session provided in the other of the first and second networks. An indication to start interception is delivered between the first and second networks. Furthermore, either the a network element or a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF). Also, a Mapping Function is provided which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a monitored user.

Independent claim 38, from which claims 39, 40, and 42-46 depend, recites a system for intercepting at least one session involving at least a first network and a second network of different types. The system includes a monitoring unit configured to monitor signalling information, where this signalling information is provided in one of the first and second networks and is of the at least one session, and session content related to the same session and is provided in another of the first and second networks. The system further includes a delivering unit configured to deliver an indication to start interception between the first and second networks. In the recited system, a network element or a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF). Continuing with the recited system of claim 38, a Mapping Function is provided which translates target indications of the first network to

corresponding target indications of the second network associated with the monitored user.

Claim 47, from which claims 48 and 49 depend, recites a network element to be used in a system for intercepting at least one session involving at least a first network and a second network of different types. The system is configured to monitor signalling information provided in one of the first and second networks of the at least one session and session content related to the same at least one session provided in another of the first and second networks, and to deliver an indication to start interception between the first and second networks. The recited network element includes a delivering unit configured to deliver an indication to start interception between the first and second networks. One of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF). Also, a Mapping Function is provided to translate target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user.

Independent claim 50 recites an appratus that includes means for monitoring signalling information, provided in one of a first and second networks of different types, of at least one session, and session content related to the at least one session provided in another of the first and second networks. The apparatus further includes means for delivering an indication to start an interception between the first and second networks. In the apparatus, one of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful

Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF). Also, a Mapping Function is provided which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user.

Independent claim 51 recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, and the computer readable medium storing code including signalling information, provided in at least one of the first and second networks, of the at least one session, and session content related to the same at least one session provided in another of the first and second networks. The stored code further includes an indication to start interception is delivered between the first and second networks. In recited claim 51, one of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF). Also, a Mapping Function is provided which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user.

Recited claim 52 relates to a A monitoring unit configured to monitor signalling information, provided in one of a first and second networks, of the at least one session, and session content related to the same at least one session provided in another of the first and second networks. An indication is delivered to start interception between the first

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and second networks. One of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF). Also, a Mapping Function is provided which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user.

Independent claim 53 recites a delivering unit configured to deliver an indication to start interception of a session between a first network and a second network of different types and signalling information of the session in one of the first and second networks is monitored, and session content related to the session in another of the first and second networks is monitored. One of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF). Also, a Mapping Function is provided, which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user.

Applicants submit that each of the above-noted independent claims recites subject matter that is not taught or disclosed by Maki. In fact, as described in greater detail below, Applicants are quite familiar with Maki since the present application and Maki are assigned to the same assignee and the primary inventor in Maki is also a co-inventor in the present application.

Applicants urge that claim 1, as amended, is allowable over Maki. As described above, claim 1 generally recites lawful interception, LI, in different networks where an indication to start interception is delivered between the first and second networks. More particularly, dependent claims 2, 3 mention that the recited networks include IMS and GPRS networks.

As disclosed in the present application at Figure 4, the P-CSCF 23 directly sends the LI information to GGSN 22 as addition to message 4, COPS DEC + LI, Figure 4. As an alternative, as depicted in Figure 5, message 3 sends the additional information LI together with message 3, from the GGSN 22 to P-CSCF 23. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to recite, for example, that "one of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF)." This recitation corresponds to original dependent claim 4, now cancelled.

It is respectfully submitted that Maki does not teach or suggest these claim recitations, and particularly does not relate to Lawful Interception (LI) as recited in claim 1. As described in its abstract, Maki generally relates to:

> [a] method for intercepting sessions ... [that] includes the steps of identifying a packet of a session to be intercepted based on media component information of the session, and, if the packet to be intercepted is identified, providing duplicated packets of the session to an interception management element.

More specifically, Maki, such as at Figure 4, illustrates details in which CSCF sends a message M12 to ADMF which informs DF3 on interception activation, using message M13, and instructing GGSN to activate interception by sending message M15. In particular, in Figure 4, Maki discloses that the messages M7, M8, M9 sent from, or received by GGSN and CSCF do not include any such additional information LI. Therefore, Maki does not teach or suggest that a message sent from GGSN to CSCF, or from CSCF to GGSN additionally includes lawful interception information, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Maki does not teach or suggest the recitation in claim 1 that "a Mapping Function is provided which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user." This recition corresponds to original dependent claim 15, now cancelled. As disclosed in the present application, this mapping function may reside in either one (or more) of the components 3, 6, 9 of Figures 1 to 3. See, for example, block 4 included in ADMF 3, or DF 2, or DF 3.

The Office Action at page 5 alleges that Maki discloses a Mapping Function as recited in claim 15 and specifically refers to Maki at sections [0005], [0008] and Figure 6. Applicants have carefully reviewed Maki and cannot find any indication of such a mapping function in the cited passages or drawings. The complete specification of Maki likewise does not appear to mention any such mapping function. Therefore, Maki does

not teach or suggest the mapping function and the alternative locations of this mapping function, as recited in claim 1.

Because Maki neither teaches nor suggests each and every limitation contained therein, claim 1 is consequently allowable over Maki. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 in view of these comments is respectfully requested. Claims 2-3, 5-14, and 16-37 depend from claim 1, and because they include every limitation recited therein, are likewise allowable over Maki on similar grounds.

Applicants have similarly amended independent claims 38, 47, and 50-53 to recite similar limitations as claim 1. Thus, independent claims 38, 47, and 50-53, although of different in scope and rejected on separate grounds from claim 1, should likewise be allowable for similar reasons. The remaining pending dependent claims should similarly be allowable as depending from allowable base claims. Reconsideration of the all the pending claims and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In Sections 6-7 of the Office Action, claims 7 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maki in view of 3GPP TS 29.207 V5.5.1 (2003-10) (the "3GP29.207" reference). According to the Office Action, Maki discloses all recitations of claim 7 except for a Go-Interface and an X1_1-Interface, but these deficiencies are cured by 3GP29.207. Similarly, the Office Action alleges that Maki discloses all recitations of claim 31 except for using a Go-Interface for uploading lawful

interception (LI) information, but this deficiency is also cured by 3GP29.207. However, as will be discussed below, each of the pending claims 7 and 31 currently recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in either Maki or 3GP29.207. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration in view of the current amendment and the following arguments.

As an initial observation, Applicants note that this rejection is legally improper under 35 USC §103(c)(1) that directs that:

> Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the claimed invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

As previously noted, both Maki and the present application share co-inventors and were assigned to common assignee Nokia Corporation from the times of invention of the subject matters disclosed in both applications. Consequently, since, as stated in Section 4 of the Office Action, Maki is a published patent application that is allegedly a prior art reference under 35 USC §102(e), it is legally improper to use Maki in the present art-based rejection under 35 USC §103(a). For this reason, this rejection is legally traversed, and claims 7 and 31 are separately allowable. Furthermore, if the USPTO subsequently rejects claims 7 and 31 on separate grounds, the new rejection must be non-final.

Furthermore, Applicants have carefully reviewed 3GP29.207 and respectfully urge that it does not cure the above-described technical deficiencies in Maki. In particular, 3GP29.207 does not relate to Lawful Interception (LI) information and, therefore, does not teach or suggests the recitations from claim 1 that "one of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF)."

Furthermore, 3GP29.207 does not relate to mapping functions and, therefore, does not teach or suggest the recitation in claim 1 that "a Mapping Function is provided which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user."

For at least these reasons, the combination of Maki and 3GP29.207 neither teaches nor suggests each and every limitation contained in independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 7 and 31, which contain all limitations of base claim 1, are consequently allowable over the combination of Maki and 3GP29.207. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 7 and 31 in view of these comments is respectfully requested.

In Section 8 of the Office Action, claims 11, 13, 18, 28, 45-46, and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maki in view of 3GPP 29.207 in view of 3GPP TS 33.107 V6.0.0 (2003-09) (the "3GP33.107" reference). According to the Office Action, Maki does not discloses all of the recitations of claims 11, 13, 18, 28,

45-46, and 49, but these deficiencies are cured by 3GP33.107. However, as will be discussed below, each of the pending claims 11, 13, 18, 28, 45-46, and 49 currently recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in either Maki, 3GP29.207, or 3GP33.107. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration in view of the current amendment and the following arguments.

As stated above, Maki and the present application are co-owned by common assignee Nokia Corporation at the time of conceptions. Consequently, under 35 USC §103(c)(1), Maki cannot be legally cited in a rejection under 35 USC §103. For this reason, this art-based rejection is legally traversed, and claims 11, 13, 18, 28, 45-46, and 49 are separately allowable. Furthermore, if the USPTO subsequently rejects claims 11, 13, 18, 28, 45-46, and 49 on separate grounds, the new rejection must be non-final.

Furthermore, Applicants have carefully reviewed 3GP33.107 and respectfully urge that it does not cure the above-described deficiencies in Maki and 3GP29.207. In particular, 3GP33.107 does not relate to Lawful Interception (LI) information and, therefore, does not teach or suggests the recitations from the independent claims that "one of a network element and a function of the first network sends Lawful Interception (LI) information either directly to one of a support node of the second network, an Administration Function (ADMF), and a Delivery Function (DF)."

Furthermore, 3GP33.107 does not relate to mapping functions and, therefore, does not teach or suggest the recitation in the independent claims that "a Mapping Function is

provided which translates target indications of the first network to corresponding target indications of the second network associated with a same monitored user."
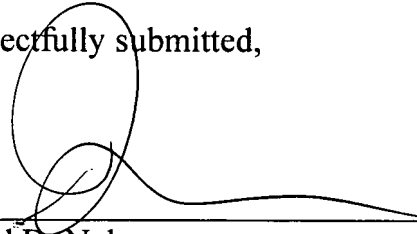
For at least these reasons, the combination of Maki, 3GP29.207, and 3GP33.107 neither teaches nor suggests each and every limitation contained in independent claims 1, 38, and 47. Therefore, dependent claims 11, 13, 18, 28, 45-46, and 49, which contain all limitations of independent claims 1, 38, or 47, are consequently allowable over the combination of Maki, 3GP29.207, and 3GP33.107. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 11, 13, 18, 28, 45-46, and 49 in view of these comments is respectfully requested.

As discussed above, each of the pending claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-40, and 42-53, including independent claims 1, 38, 47, and 50-53 recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references. Applicants submit that the recited subject matter is more that sufficient to render the invention non-obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. It is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 38, 47, and 50-53 and the related dependent claims be allowed in view of the above arguments comments and remarks and that the present application be allowed to pass to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

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Enclosures: Additional Claim Fee Transmittal
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